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**BOX PATENT APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

RE: *U.S. Patent Application Entitled: MASTER BONE FORMATION TRANSCRIPTION  
FACTOR: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS OF USE - Benoit de Crombrugghe,  
Kazuhisa Nakashima & Xin Zhou*

Commissioner:

Transmitted herewith for filing is a 126-page patent specification including 77 claims and an abstract. Also included are Figures 1-10 on 14 sheets. The specification and drawings constitute the application of Benoit de Crombrugghe, Kazuhisa Nakashima, and Xin Zhou for the captioned invention.

Also transmitted herewith is a diskette containing the computer-readable form of those sequences in the specification, a Statement as Required Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.821(f), and a separate paper copy of the sequence listing.

Please note that this application is filed without an inventors' Declaration and Assignment, a Declaration Claiming Small Entity Status, a Power of Attorney, and filing fees. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) and (f), the Applicants request the Patent and Trademark Office to accept this application and accord a serial number and filing date as of the date this application is deposited with the U.S. Postal Service for Express Mail. Further, the Applicants request that the NOTICE OF MISSING PARTS-FILING DATE GRANTED pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(f) be sent to the undersigned Applicants' representative.

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Please date stamp and return the enclosed postcard to evidence receipt of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Belley

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MSB/jmh  
Encl.:

[illegible]